16 August 1972

Dear Harold:

I was able to get through to Hal, which ordinarily isn't too easy due to the discrepancy in working hours and the fact he's not home too much, and he says he will be glad to study the Kessler pictures.

Also asked him if he could recall anything about Veritas, and he had the impression he had heard of it, that it was either a Spanish organization of some kind or a magazine, but said he could remember nothing further.

It also develops that he knows of your rupture with Gary et al, says he's extremely sorry to hear of it and thinks there may be some misunderstanding involved. I did not pursue this further with him for the reason noted below. The whole conversation was rather short for the same reason, but he sounded very cheerful and cordial, glad to hear from us after quite a long interval. Says his business is doing very well and that he's extremely busy, which can well be understood in view of the fact he's holding down a fulltime job and carrying on his business at the same time.

Also I was able to ask him if he had heard anything further from Rhodes and/or Copley following his call to the call-in show on which one of them was appearing, and during which call the guy said he would get in touch with Hal after he got back from Miami. Hal says he's heard nothing further. In all the stuff out of Miami there has been no hint that Rhodes and/or Copley were at all active, or that if they were they made any dent .

Hal could hear me quite well, but he was extremely faint and it was very difficult to understand him, the level from his end was so low. This has happened before in exactly the same way with people we have talked with in the East Bay, people who have no reason to be bugged. In Hal's case there were a couple of minor clicks somewhere along the way but nothing I really could say was unusual. Due mainly to the difficulty of hearing him and the necessity to ask him frequently to repeat, I kept the conversation short and restricted to essentials for the most part.

He has seen the enclosed article in the Freep, but not the Realist, and is much interested.

jdw